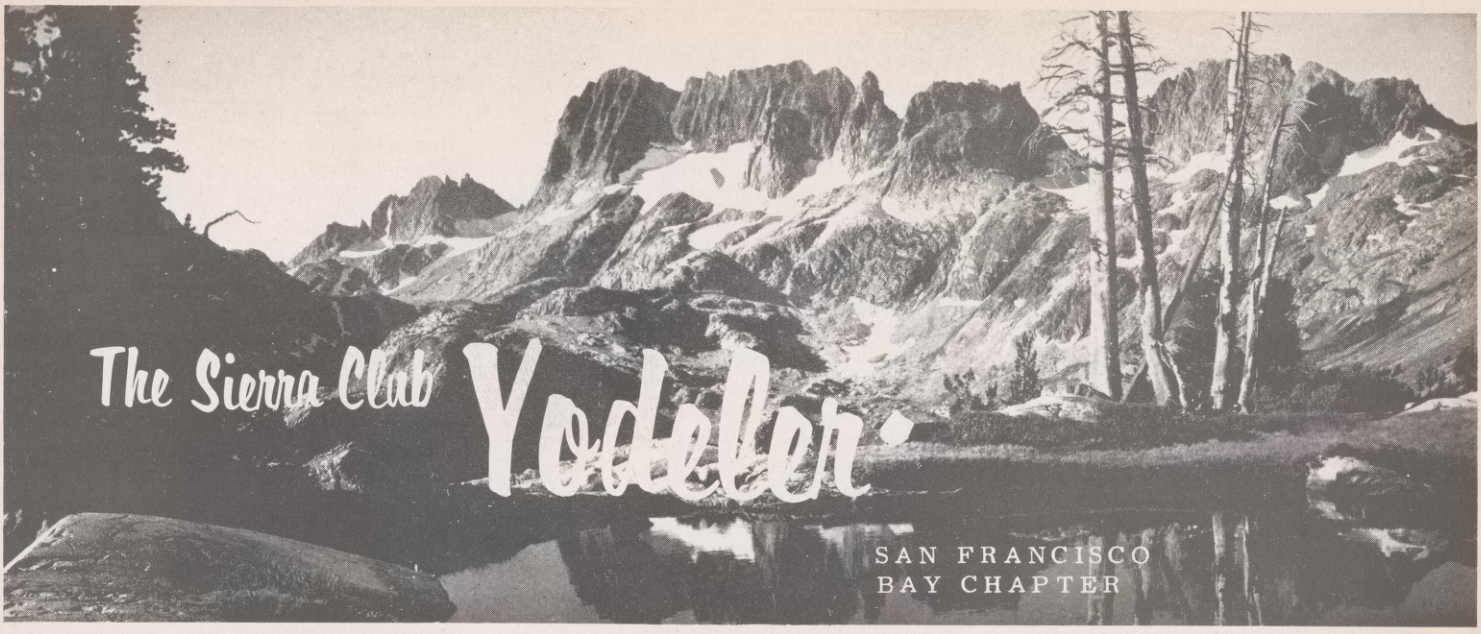

Volume XXI | October 19, 1959 | Number 15

CONSERVATION NEWS

The Regional Forester, Mr. Charles Connaughton, met with the members of the Kern Plateau Association to answer their questions on the logging activities on the Kern Plateau. We suspect that Mr. Connaughton will remember the meeting as an uncomfortable experience.

Questions by members of the Association brought out that the Forest Service has made no plans to study the watershed before access roads are built. They consider their knowledge is sufficient, but many conservationists feel that on marginal forest lands such as the Kern Plateau a careful study is imperative before a surface vegetation in such precarious balance is disturbed by logging.

Complaint was also made that the Forest Service has not developed for recreation many of the areas nearby which have been cut, and which it assured us could be used for both logging and recreation.

The proposed ski development at Robinson Valley, above Onion Valley, has been under study by the Forest Service for some months. We hear that the Service will hold a formal hearing next spring.

The Sierra Club Executive Committee has passed a resolution against this development, which would take a deep notch out of the long narrow High Sierra Wilderness Area, leaving it with a wasp waist at Keersarge Pass just where buffer protection is especially needed for Kings Canyon National Park.

Two new members have been appointed to the National Park Advisory Board which advises the National Park Service on matters concerning the Parks and Monuments.

One is Robert Gordon Sproul, who has just retired as President of the University of California. The other is Sigurd Olson,

(Continued Page 2)

PT. REYES FILM FUND

The response to the appeal for donations to the Point Reyes Film Fund is most encouraging. Over 300 of the salmon colored envelopes came into the Club office during the past week and we are sure many more are on the way.

We cannot give you an accurate estimate of the results yet, for our volunteers who open and record the letters have not yet caught up with the mailman, so a box of unopened envelopes still remains in the office safe.

We are happy to hear that the Tamalpais Conservation Club, at its last board meeting, voted $100 from its conservation fund for the Point Reyes Film Fund.

The next issue of Yodeler will carry the story and a full account will be found in the next monthly Bulletin. Meanwhile the Bay Chapter Conservation Committee sees the film approaching reality and it is deeply thankful for the splendid interest and support.

The film itself is almost ready to go to the laboratory, where a copy will be made to which we can add, subtract, divide or multiply until the final polished film and copies are ready for circulation.

—C.M.C.

The American Youth Hostels, Inc. cordially invite our members to attend a Hallowe'en Dance on Friday, October 30th from 8:00 P.M. to midnight at 362 Capp Street, San Francisco. Admission will be $1.00 including refreshments. Costumes are optional.

Tickets will be available at the door, or from Bill Ireland, SEabright 1-9263.

NATURE CONSERVANCY AIDS MENDOCINO PROJECT

The Nature Conservancy is working hard to meet a deadline on November 1 on the contract down payment of $25,000 which will preserve the unique Elder Creek valley in northern Mendocino County.

This is a magnificent natural area, untouched, in the midst of miles of logged forests, and is a self-contained area of 6500 acres of virgin Douglas fir, madrone, and natural meadow along clear streams.

The owner, Mr. Angelo, is anxious to preserve this valley as it is now, and he has set a very low price on it. But taxes must be paid, and timber resources are heavily taxed, while even the most dedicated of conservationists must have money to live on. (Incidentally, we see Mr. Angelo's name in our list of donors to the Point Reyes Film Fund.)

$20,000 has already been raised, but time is growing short. You can buy a whole acre of this valley for the Nature Conservancy for $33.00 —C.M.C.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Hike on November 8 to start at 9:30 a.m. at flagpole at the start of 8500 block on Skyline Blvd., Oakland. Take Snake Road to Shepherd Canyon to Park Blvd., turn right on Skyline to Warden's residence. Phone Bennett K. Tow at YEllowstone 5-0271 or Bob Hackamack at THornwall 3-8256 for rides, riders or information.

Sierra Club Yodeler

A semi-monthly publication of the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Address all communications to Yodeleditor, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4.

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NEXT DEADLINE: Nov. 2

VOLUME XXI NO. 15 — Oct. 19, 1959

CONSERVATION, cont.

President of the National Parks Association.

The development called Tahoe Keys proposes to build a little Venice at the southwest corner of Lake Tahoe, with hundreds of summer homes on canalways. The first plan was to dredge the lake bottom to obtain fill, but there has been objection to this since a public recreation beach is close by. Other objections deal with such items as possible danger of sewage in the lake, all of which points out once again the urgent necessity of regional planning for the Tahoe basin, which is rapidly becoming a ring shaped city. —C.M.C.

You Can Come Out Now

It is now safer than ever to break a leg on a Sierra Club outing. Just be sure there's a trained first aider in your party.

Somewhere between 11 and 17 knapsackers, rock climbers and leaders passed the examination for the Red Cross Standard First Aid Course October 13, Standard First Aid Course October 13, and started the Advanced Class the following week. (The latitude in numbers is because 17 registered for the class but there were some drop-outs, and this reporter doesn't know how many).

Class discussion emphasizes what to do in case of accidents away from "civilization".

Class members sold the non-SC'er instructor two tickets to the Hallowe'en Party and may even have sold him on the idea of joining the Club. —A.R.

Welcome Home Dept.

This is a very brief and very late Welcome! to the Sierra Club and to the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Now that you've all returned from the High Trip, Base Camp, river trips, hikes, climbs, and beach-combs, and you're tired and you've lost your glorious tans, you can sit back and think about the wonderful times you had during the summer; and the prospect of a fine, snowy winter should perk you up.

But now, too, it's time to think about why you joined the Sierra Club, and what you expect to get from it. It sounds a bit mercenary, but, after all, you only get out of something that which you put into it. And because you enjoy the outdoors, whether from exploring it yourselves, or from reading about it, you should now begin to think about what you can do for the Club and for yourselves.

There is always need for help on committees—you hear a plea for it all the time—and maybe now is the time you should offer your services. (You know that a Christmas party is much more fun when you're on the punch committee, or play the tail-end of Santa's reindeer and everyone knows who you are by your shoes and socks).

If you can't participate in this way, you can write your congressmen about conservation matters. So you see, everyone can do something.

Well, from my soap-box I again say welcome, and urge you to take an active part in the Club—it's an awful lot of fun!

—Joanne Evers, Chairman
Membership Committee
S.F. Bay Chapter

Zoology One

Of course the PANORAMIC SPECIAL was a long time ago, but still it was memorable for its beauty and peacefulness; for instance, have you ever sat atop a promontory and looked down over gently rolling green-brown hills and valleys, and seen the toy-like cotton ball clouds float over these hills, casting moving shadows as they go? Or have you ever seen a black horse standing on a brownish barren mound half-way up a hill; or a jack rabbit move so fast in the hazy distant mound as to seem like a pahntom? Or have you watched the ants building innumerable little apartment houses right at your feet or engineer the moving of a huge beetle (dead) into their house, like an ancient Egyptian scene, where one thousand slaves are heaving one mammoth stone across the plains of the desert?

Anyway, that is what I saw in the way of panorama on the Panoramic Special, Saturday, Sept. 19.

ROCK CLIMBING SECT.

On October 4-5, the Rock Climbing Section was in Yosemite Valley for the only scheduled valley climb this fall. On Saturday most parties concentrated on the Cathedral Rocks and the Leaning Tower. As a result, traffic in the Gunsight was quite heavy that afternoon and night. Sunnyside Bench, Monday Morning Slab, and Schultz's Ridge were the targets for Sunday. Bob Hackamack, a new section member (but not a new Sierra Club member) was initiated to high angle rock climbing. Bob did very well except for dropping a piton. We can't complain too much because the party leader dropped a fruit juice can and almost hit those climbing below. When are you going back to get that can, Carl?

The annual Rock Climbing Section Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, November 21. Please note this is a date change from what appears in the schedule. The location will be the same as last year, the New Farm Bureau Hall, between Concord and Clayton. A gala evening is guaranteed. The $2.00 per person tab includes a champagne cocktail, dinner, entertainment and dancing. As an added attraction, the R.C.S. Thespians will present a thrilling drama entitled "That Night on Bivouac Ledge." Everyone is welcome, tickets can be purchased from any committee member, at the local clubs, or at the Ski Hut. No tickets will be sold after November 15.

Famous last words in Rock Climbing history. "ROCK!" —Helen Weisner

SORRY!

The HALLOWE'EN PARTY IS SOLD OUT TO CAPACITY.

Only ticket-holders can be accommodated at either the barbecue area or the recreation hall, or at the Sunday Winery tour. We are keeping a waiting list for last minute cancellations, if you care to give Walt Ochse your telephone number.

Better luck next time — earlier.

—Pat Cone, Chairman

ADVERTISEMENT

FREE - Yodelers from Vol. I, No. 1, to Vol. IV, Vol. 16, plus later copies.

$40.00 Sierra Club Bulletins (Annuals) from 1911 to 1951. Not a complete set. Total 40 volumes.

Contact A. E. Glenn, 278 Connecticut St., San Francisco. Telephone MArket 1-8847.

All Hail to Santa Claus!

Christmas Party, December 12, 1959! Bjornson Hall, 2258 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. Make a note of the date now, before the whirlwind of holiday activities overwhelms you — and watch the "Yodeler" for further details.

—Bonnie Hubbard
1550 Sonoma Ave.
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$600 for 10 people, Feb. 15 to March 1.

Call LOmbard 6-7673, Mrs. J. L. Murphy, 2500 - 35th Avenue, San Francisco.

HIT BY CUPID'S DART

Arthur LAMPERT and Sumi HARAMAKI, September 19.

Doris BROWN and Eugene MINER, our correspondent didn't say when.

DEPT. OF VITAL STATISTICS

Earl and Enid (Lovett) Brand have a "brand" new son, Timothy. Entered this hemisphere on October 6.

$3.50 will get you $10.00

If you ski, plan to ski, or just "she", your organization is the Far West Ski Association. Just as the Sierra Club is dedicated to preserve, enjoy and explore the Sierra, the FWSA is pledge to encourage and improve the sport of skiing .....and it needs YOUR support.

The FWSA is not just a bunch of letters but is an active organization....with definite money benefits to you when you join. Let's add them up:

With a FWSA membership you receive a year's subscription to National Skiing with its special 12 page insert devoted to the West. Value $3.00

This year you will be able to enjoy a day's free lift ticket (midweek) at selected resorts in the Sierra. Resorts in the North, Central and Southern regions have already signed up. Value $4.50.

The two operators and their ski schools realize the value of lessons .... This year a FWSA membership card will entitle you to one free midweek lesson at selected MAJOR ski resorts. Value $2.50.

That adds up to $10.00 — almost three times the FWSA membership of $3.50. But two of the most important benefits haven't been mentioned yet....Ski Patrol and support of skiing.

Part of the Ski Patrol funds come from the FWSA. We don't have to tell you of the thousands of cases handled by these good samaritans on skis every year. Your case may be merely a split seam and need a safety pin or you may have seen the Ski Patrol expertly bringing in a less fortunate skier. Remember, unlike some areas in Europe where fees to bring you down the mountain are posted, the National Ski Patrol System cannot and does not charge you for its services.

Every sport has to have its organization, whether it is to handle competitions, testing, standards, promotion of the sport or what have you. The Far West Ski Association is YOUR organization. JOIN TODAY.

The Sierra Club is an active part of the FWSA. The more members we have, the stronger our voice in the organization. And if you race — you have to be a FWSA member.

Send a check today to Larry Marks, 7806 Potrero, El Cerrito, and he will have your FWSA membership card sent you promptly. Make the check payable to the Far West Ski Association. Today.

$3.50 will get you $10.00.

—L.M. MARKS
SIERRA CLUB DELEGATE TO FWSA

VISIT TO THE ZOO

It is one thing to visit the Zoo as one of the general public, but it is quite another thing to be escorted behind the scenes as it were by the Zoo's Director, Mr. Carey Baldwin. It was thus that a group of Sierra Club members and friends were taken for a private tour through Fleishhacker Zoo on Friday evening, June 26. This trip was an activity of the N.S.S.

A walk through one pasture gave us close up views of peccaries, ostriches, peacocks, and a parrot who made his home in a barrel nailed up in a tree. Llamas in the same pasture approached the group for a close up view of two young boys who stood motionless while the llamas gently nudged them with their noses. Then on to giraffes, one of whom was not impressed with our group, and pushed his door shut with his nose. The two elephants were more friendly, perhaps because we were feeding them bread, a slice at a time. Another large animal was the hippopotamus which was splashing around in his pool of water. His purchase price was one doller per pound back when he weighed about 3600 pounds. The poor beast suffers from bad teeth, but as yet no way has been discovered to remedy that defect. One dentist suggested that the tooth be crowned, but Mr. Baldwin thought it might be cheaper to buy a new Hippo.

One of the lions was in full form as we passed his den. He was pacing back and forth at a great rate, whether in a rage or not we could not tell. Then a tunnel led us right on to the cute little animals. Next in line were Tropical Birds, including a Black Duck, a Demoselle Crane, and a Marabou Stork who was nesting in the branches of a tree.

The highlight of the trip was probably the three little Koalas, recently arrived from Australia. They were drowsy creatures, all perched in the branches of a tree, one at the very tip top. One of them was low enough so that we could reach up and pet him and feel his soft ash gray fur.

Our last stop was at the cage of the Chimpanzee who was asleep in his inner quarters. Mr. Baldwin awakened him by rattling on the fence and the Chimp responded in kind. Also the Chimp pounded violently on his door and once in a while would jump up and down in a violent manner. We did not know whether he was enraged at having been awakened or whether he was just showing off his terrific strength.

So the trip ended with many thanks to Mr. Baldwin for his kindness to us. We left with the impression that here was a man who was especially fitted for his job. He treated the animals as individuals and not as dumb beasts. —Jesse Saunders

"ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLES"

A color film and narration by
W. EMERSON SCOTT
Sponsored by The Audubon Society
Olney Hall, College of Marin, Kentfield
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30 8:00 P.M.
Admission 90¢

Many river tourers will remember Scotty as a delightful companion and boatman with Buss Hatch on the Ladore Trips a few years back. He filmed some of these adventures and Sierra Clubbers appear in portions of another film titled, "Canyon Voyage", which will be shown at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lawrence, of San Rafael, immediately following "Rocky Mountain Rambles". Those wishing to see "Canyon Voyage", who were with Scotty and other interested river tourers should call Miss Nina Eloesser, FI 6-1967 in S. F., or Lou or Claire Elliott, OL 5-3801 (E. Bay), if they intend to come.

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To Each His Own

The last day of the recent heat wave was properly observed by the hikers who took the Lake Anza jaunt. They stayed in the shade most of the time!

The first part of the hike was down a wooded path in a eucalyptus grove, with interest added by climbing over a tree that blocked the trail at one point and by learning to roll with the seed pods that pull your feet out from under you unless you grab at the poison oak rimming the trail soon enough. This is mentioned only because most people avoided both the seed pods and the poison oak.

After viewing the Tilden Park caves—from the other side of the canyon so the 1/2 dozen children in the group wouldn't be too tempted—and the panorama that can be seen from Inspiration Point, the group reversed its direction and headed for the Brazilian Clubhouse lawn for lunch.

Each person visiting the clubhouse came back with the news that a wedding reception was being prepared, so on the insistence of a few sentimentalists in the party, everyone waited to see the bride. Everyone, that is, except one six-year-old boy, who had attended Chapter Day two weeks before. He waited to help take care of the refreshments.

The most penetrating sound as the hikers headed homeward was his wail, unconvinced by his mother's repeated assertion, "But that's not a Sierra Club dinner. That food's for someone else."

—A. R.

Labor Day Car Camping

Over the Labor Day weekend about 120 Sierra Club Car Campers hiked, swam, and relaxed in the area around the Tahoe Mountain Organization Camp Ground, a part of the new "Operation Outdoors" development of the Forest Service.

There were so many of us that we had to use two campsites and our leaders, Margo Gwinn and Jim Planakis, had to run back and forth between the two campfires each night to make sure that everyone knew and approved of the next day's hiking plans.

On Saturday we went to Angora Lakes where we swam and sun-bathed until Margo lured us off to climb Echo Peak with promises of a sensational view. It was a steep climb following a rather erratic trail of ducks but from the top of the mountain we saw lakes and mountains to make us glad we came.

Sunday we hiked to Desolation Valley, a delightful hike passing meadows where there were yet flowers and lakes where no people were. Desolation Valley itself was a most exciting and intriguing area and we envied a party that had come equipped for overnight camping.

Monday's hike was shorter because nearly everyone was leaving that afternoon.

Our destination was Floating Island Lake. Some of the better insulated individuals who enjoyed long swims in the "invigorating" water tried to pull the island away from shore where it had been anchored by a fallen tree. In spite of their lack of success we had a good look at the fascinating phenomenon of of the floating island.

Margo and I were the only hikers left on Tuesday so we hiked to more of the beautiful lakes that are scattered through this area.

I returned from the weekend happy but regretting the trails we didn't have time to walk and mountains we didn't climb.

This trip was certainly worth repeating as an Annual Outing!—Candace Mc Donnell

CONTINUED NEXT COL.

Ballot Counters Needed

Saturday, October 31st, is election day for the 1960 Bay Chapter Executive Committee. Volunteers are urgently needed to count ballots at the Sierra Club office.
If you can help, phone Walter Oppenheimer at OVerland 1-5536, to find out what time he wants to start the job.

The Sierra Club